3. Mr. Mohamed Ayoob Sait, member for Poomangalam, proposed by Mr. C. V. Iyyu, member for Kunnamkulam, and seconded by Mr. Cheladi Rawther, member for Cheruthuruthi Muslim.

Since there are only three nominations these three Hon'ble Members are declared duly elected as members of the House Committee.

There is one member to be nominated by the President of the House which would be done later on.

6. Election of a member to the Maharaja's Technological Institute Advisory Committee

Only one nomination has been received and that is of Mr. K. H. Sulaiman, member for Mattancheri, proposed by Mr. M. Bhaskara Menon, member for Ernakulam, and seconded by Mr. K. C. Mayankutty Methar, member for Cheranellur Muslim. Since there is only one nomination received Mr. K. H. Sulaiman is declared duly elected to be a member of the Maharaja's Technological Institute Advisory Committee.

7. Announcement of the Panel Chairmen

I have to announce that for this session the Panel Chairmen will be Mr. K. H. Sulaiman and Mr. Kodanat Narayanan Namburipad.

8. Amendment to Cochin Legislative Council Standing Orders

*Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Finance and Law):* Under rule 58 of the Assembly rules I have the honour to place the following statement of expenditure authorised by Government under section 28 (1) (c) of the Government of Cochin Act, 1118.

Sir, I beg leave to introduce the following amendment to the Cochin Legislative Council Standing Orders. (See the Amendment in Appendix I).

Mr. P. K. Krishnankutty Menon *(Vellarappilli):* I second it.

*Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Finance and Law):* Sir, in the Standing Orders the word used to refer to this House is the word "Council" and the first section of the amending Bill seeks to substitute the word "Council" by the word "Assembly" because under the Act this House is now known as the "Legislative Assembly."

Then the second amendment is with respect to the time of the sitting of this House. Under the existing Standing Order 5(1) the House meets every day at 11-30 a. m. and normally breaks up at 5 p.m. Under this amendment the idea is to change the time of the meeting of the House so as to enable the House to assemble at 4 p. m. every day and break up at 9 p.m. It is thought, that this change in time will be more convenient for members of the House, for members of Government and for all concerned. Subsequent to the drafting of this rule it was considered more proper or more convenient to have the House to assemble at 3 p.m. and to break up at 8 p.m. on week days and on Saturdays for the House to assemble at 10 a.m. and break up at 3 p.m. Thereby the Hon'ble members of this House will be able to get a long enough week and holiday so that after breaking up at 3 p.m. on Saturday they need assemble again only on at 3 p.m. on Monday. That is an advantageous amendment and My friend Mr. K. T. Achuthan will be moving an amendment to that effect which I intend to accept. I hope that the Hon'ble Members of this House will accept this amendment with respect to the time of work of this House and thereby add to the convenience which the members are likely to enjoy thereby.

The 3rd amendment is with respect to the word "Diwan" used in the Standing Orders. It is sought to be substituted by "Government" for obvious reasons.

The 4th amendment is with respect to questions. Several members of this House had been representing that the system of starred questions may be introduced. The system of starred questions will work in the following way. At present, questions are sent by Hon'ble members. These questions may refer to long details about facts which Government have in their possession. It may also refer to important information which members would like to get from Government. All these questions are treated alike. In other Assemblies in India a difference is sought to be made. Questions which seek from Government information about

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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[Mr. P. Govinda Menon]

details are generally sent as unstarred questions and the answers to these questions will be printed in the Legislative Assembly Proceedings. With respect to other questions, they are sent as starred questions. The answers to starred questions are delivered on the floor of the House orally by each member of Government concerned and if a starred question is not reached during the one hour set apart for questions on each day the questions do not lapse. The questions and the answers thereto are printed as in the case of unstarred questions.

Another important change which is attempted to be made by this amendment which I believe Hon'ble Members will appreciate very much, is this. According to the present practice it often happens that the questions sent to Government are not answered. As soon as the question is admitted by the Hon'ble President, it is sent for answers to the Government and if the answers do not reach in time, the Hon'ble President is helpless to help the Hon'ble Members to get the proper answer. In order to remove that difficulty I am making a suggestion. Simultaneously with the issue of notice of the House to the Hon'ble Members the Hon'ble President or the office will decide the days on which each member of Government will make answers to questions. The questions will be admitted and it will be the duty of Government and the members of Government to appear before the House on the day and to give those answers. It is not left to the option of Government members whether to answer or not, and that is why this provision is there in rule 11 A. "The Secretary shall, together with the provision a list of business under S. O. 3(2) intimate every member, the days on which each member of Government will give oral answers to interpellations." The result will be this. At present, we are putting questions like this—"Will the Government be pleased to state" Instead of that, the idea is that Hon'ble members should put a question like this "Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state" and in sending the question to the Assembly in the covering letter the members can select the day on which the questions will be put. The Prime Minister will have to appear in the Assembly in that day and to answer the question and thereby a great right is given to the members in that; it is not left to the sweet will and pleasure of the Government to select the day on which the question will be answered and to decide whether questions will be answered or not. In that way, the rights and privileges of the Hon'ble members of this House are sought to be enhanced by this amendment.

Then the next amendment is only verbal in character.

The next amendment also is like that.

Then the last provision says—"The amendments numbers 1, 2, 3 and 5 shall come into force at once. The amendments numbers 4 and 6 shall come into force with effect from a date to be specified by the President."

Amendments numbers 4 and 6 are with respect to starred questions and also the rule regarding ballot.

This, in short, is the nature of the amendment to the Standing Orders proposed by me. As the House would have noted the two most important amendments are with respect to the change in the time of the sitting of the House and regarding starred and unstarred questions. I request the Hon'ble House to accept this Bill, because I believe that it will conduce to the better convenience in the working of this House.

Mr. President: Under the Standing Orders, the draft shall be read by the President. So I am reading the draft amendment.

1. For the word "Council" wherever it occurs the word "Assembly" shall be substituted.

2. For Standing Order 5 (1) the following shall be substituted.

"5. (1) While in session a meeting of the Assembly shall, subject to the direction of the President, ordinarily commence at 4 p.m. and conclude at 9 p.m.".

3. In Standing Orders 6, 45 and 46 for the words "the Diwan" wherever they occur, the word "Government" shall be substituted.

4. For Standing Order 11 the following shall be substituted.

"11. (1) Questions which have not been disallowed shall be entered in the list of questions for the day.

(2) Starred puestions entered in the list of questions shall be called, if the time made available for questions permits, in the order in which they stand in the list.

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(3) All starred questions which are not reached within the time available and all unstarred questions with answers thereto, shall be included in the printed proceedings of the Assembly.

"11. A. The Secretary shall, together with the provisional list of business under Standing Order 3 (2) intimate every member, the days on which each member of Government will give oral answers to interpellations".

5. In Standing Order 57—

(*i*) for the words, brackets and letters "provisos (*b*) and (*c*)" the words, brackets and letter "Proviso (*c*)" shall be substituted, and

(*ii*) the words brackets and letter "together, in the case of action under proviso (*b*) aforesaid, with a copy of the declaration made by the Diwan" shall be deleted.

6. In the Schedule to the Standing Orders in paragraph 1, for the words "previous to the date of ballot" the words 'previous to the date on which the resolutions stand posted in the Agenda" shall be substituted.

7. The amendments numbers 1, 2, 3, and 5. shall come into force at once. The amendments numbers 4 and 6 shall come into force with effect from a date to be specified by the President".

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)* Sir, I oppose amendment No. 2.

Mr. President : That can be taken up later on when it is put clause by clause. Since this amendment of the Standing Orders is opposed, according to the rules, I request the Hon'ble Members who are in favour of the amendment that is introduced here to stand up in their places. There are 48 members in favour of the amendment. Hence the leave solicited is granted.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Finauce and Law):* I pray that S. O. 32 may be suspended that the Bill be taken into consideration at once.

Mr. President : S. O. 32 is suspended.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Finance and Law):* I move that the amendment to the Cochin Legislative Council Standing Orders be taken into consideration.

Mr. M. K. Menon *(Chiyyaram)* I second it.

Amendment No. 1, put and carried

Mr. K. T. Achuthan *(Kodakara)* Sir, I beg to move this amendment. For S. O. 5 (1) the following shall be substituted:

"5. (1) Subject to the direction of the President the meeting of the Assembly, while in session shall, on all days other than Saturdays, ordinarily commence at 3 p.m. and conclude at 8 p.m. On Saturdays the meeting shall ordinarily commence at 10 a.m. and conclude at 3 p.m."

Mr. K. Kochukuttan *(Aranattukara Depressed Classes):* I second it.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Finance and Law):* I accept the amendment.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Sir, I oppose this amendment. In opposing the amendment I would like to make it clear that as far as the last portion of the amendment of Mr. Achuthan that on "Saturdays the meetings shall ordinarily commence at 10 a.m. and conclude at 3 p.m." That portion I do not oppose. But since I oppose the amendment as is brought here as No. 2, I shall give my reasons for it. In bringing this amendment the Hon'ble Minister for Law and Finance has considered mostly the convenience of the advocates as well as the people of Ernakulam and Mattancheri and suburbs. We who represent the mofussil are earnest that opportunities should be given for mofussil people to attend the celeberations of this House. Our State being small, our people can start from their villages early in the morning, come to Ernakulam and then go back in the evening. Even people from my place which is 14 miles distant from a railway station can come in the morning to attend the Assembly Sessions and go back the same day. The attending of the Legislative Assembly Meeting itself is a sort of political education for the ordinary lay man. Many people from all parts of the State come here, because it is the seat of the Government and of the highest court, and people, if they find time, they usually come and sit in the gallery and hear the discussion. Such people are really benefitted and know fully what their repersentative is doing. They also come conversant with the many state questions are dealt with. They also get some sort of political education—not as reported by newspapers. With all respect to the members of the Press Gallery I may say that most of the newspapers in the State are able to send only imperfect reports.

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Mr. President : Order. Order. That is not part of the motion.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam) :* The Assembly reports have not as much circulation as the newspapers. The circulation of the Assembly reports reach only in Public Offices and members of this House.

The other reason is that this practice has not been yet followed by most of the Legislatures in India. I do not know whether there are even one or two Legislative Assemblies or Councils which have such afternoon or night meetings. As far as I am I know I have not yet come heard of any. I have heard that in the British Parliament they sit in night sessions. I have only second hand or third hand information. I have heard that the proceedings in Parliament are not as lively as any Legislature in India. Some say that there are not even sufficient seating arrangements, to seat all members of Parliament. I may have to say something more about the British Parliament which probably the President may have to rule out. The very reason that the British Parliament is holding sittings during night-time is no explanation that in a hot country like India, especially in Cochin, where we have not sufficient electricity to develope our basic industries. It will be unnecessary waste of the electric current for a few days in the year by having night sittings of this legislature.

Another important point I have to bring out is that many people, say within a radius of 10 or 20 miles of Ernakulam, many institutions, many organisations get the help of members of this Legislature for conducting meeting educational, social as well as political. For this purpose most of the members of this House, at least a good portion are being invited. Such organisations are to loose the services of the members of this House by hearing their speeches. A member of the Legislature coming from Chittur might be a good speaker. Unless he attends the assembly, he will have to be brought for that particular purpose. On the other hand, if it is during the Assembly Session time, he will be free at 5 o'clock and he can address the meeting or preside. There are also political parties who are not represented in this House. They conduct meetings generally in the evenings. We, members of this House may be benefitted by the discussion that takes place in this House. Even such willing services we will be unable to do to the public. Ernakulam is an important place and far more politically advanced than many other parts of this State. Generally important political meetings are held only in such important towns. Hence by the acceptance of this amendment the members will be tied up in this House during their stay at Ernakulam. They will not get the benefit of hearing the opposite point of view of their political parties.

All these reasons stand against the adoption of this amendment. I am not taking the time of the House any longer. I know fully well that this amendment might not be defeated. Because I know that an overwhelming majority is supporting the present Government in this Legislature. Therefore I request the majority party to reconsider their position. I humbly request the Government to think whether there is any reasons for my opposition, in what I have said and drop the amendment if they are convinced.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. ഗോവിന്ദമേനോൻ : സർ, എറണാകുളത്തുള്ള ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട സാമാജികന്മാരുടെ സൌകര്യത്തിനുവേണ്ടി സമയം ഭേദഗതി ചെയ്യുന്നതാണെന്ന് ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട കുന്നംകുളം മെമ്പർ പറഞ്ഞതു ശരിയല്ല. വക്കീലന്മാരുടെ സൌകര്യത്തിനാണെങ്കിൽ അതും ശരിയല്ല. സമയമാറ്റം ചെയ്യുന്നതു് എന്തെങ്കിലും ഉദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടിയാണെന്നു് വിചാരിക്കുന്നതു ശരിയല്ല. വളരെ കാലമായിട്ടു ഇങ്ങിനെ ഒരു മാറ്റം വരുത്തണമെന്നു് എനിക്കു് അഭിപ്രായം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നു. എന്റെ ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട സ്നേഹിതൻ പഴയന്നൂർ മെമ്പർ മന്ത്രിയായിരുന്ന കാലത്തു്, ഞാനും അദ്ദേഹവും കൂട്ടമന്ത്രിമാരായിരുന്ന കാലത്തു് ഈ വിധത്തിലുള്ള ഒരു ഭേദഗതി നിയമസഭയുടെ സമ്മേളന സമയത്തിൽ വരുത്തണമെന്നു് ഞങ്ങൾക്കു് അന്നതന്നെ ഉദ്ദേശമുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ചില കാരണങ്ങളാൽ അന്നു് അതു നടന്നില്ലെന്നു മാത്രമെയുള്ളൂ. എല്ലാ അംഗങ്ങൾക്കും ഒരുപോലെ സൌകര്യമാകുമെന്നാണു് ഞാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നതു്. എറണാകുളത്തു് നിയമസഭാസമ്മേളനത്തിനു് വന്നതിനു ശേഷം വീട്ടിൽ പോയി മടങ്ങുവാൻ സൌകര്യമില്ല; വൈകുന്നേരം മീറ്റിംഗിൽ പോകുവാൻ സൌകര്യം ഉണ്ടാവുകയില്ല; മൈതാനങ്ങളിൽ നടക്കുന്ന മീറ്റിംഗുകളിൽ സംബന്ധിക്കുന്നതിനു് നിയമസഭയുടെ സമയം അനുവദിക്കുന്നില്ല; എന്നെല്ലാം പറഞ്ഞു്. ഇതിനെ എതിർക്കുന്നതു് ശരിയല്ല. ഇൻഡ്യയിൽ രണ്ടു പ്രധാനപ്പെട്ട അസംബ്ലികളിൽ ഈ സമയം സ്വീകരിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. കോൺസ്റ്റിറ്റുവെൻറ് അസംബ്ലി ഇന്നോ, നാളെയോ ഒരാട്ടു മുന്നു മണി മുതൽ എട്ടുമണിവരെയാണു് സമ്മേളനം നടത്തുവാൻ തീരുമാനിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു്.

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കഴിഞ്ഞ ഏതാനും കൊല്ലമായി ബങ്കാം ലജിസ്ലേറ്റീവ് അസംബിളി മൂന്നര മണി മുതൽ എട്ടര മണിവരെയാണ് സമ്മേളിക്കുന്നത്. ഒരു week end holiday അംഗങ്ങൾക്ക് കൊടുക്കുകയെന്നുള്ള ആശയം ബങ്കാം അസംബിളിയുടെ മുമ്പിൽ നിന്നാണ് എനിക്കു കിട്ടിയതു്. അതനുസരിച്ചാണ് ശ്രീമാൻ അച്യുതൻ ഒരു ഭേഗതി കൊണ്ടുവന്നതു്. ഇങ്ങിനെയെല്ലാം ഇരിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥിതിക്ക് ഈ ഭേഗതി നിയമസഭ സ്വീകരിക്കണമെന്ന് ഞാൻ താഴ്മയായി അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Mr. President: The question is that clause (2) as amended by the amendment proposed by Mr. K. T. Achuthan stands part of the Standing Orders.

Question put and carried.

Clauses 3 to 7 put and carried.

***Mr. P. Govinda Menon** (Minister for Finance and Law):* I move that the amendment to the Standing Orders may be taken up and finally passed at some time fixed by the Hon'ble President later in the day.

Mr. President: According to the rules this may be taken up and passed at a subsequent sitting, that is the expression in the rule.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Finance and Law):* There have been precedents in this House, Sir, when in important measures this has been done. I will refer to the reports of the Cochin Legislative Council Proceedings, dated 12th February 1943, when after the second reading was over it was ordered by the Chair that the third reading of the Bill will be taken up at 5. The House was adjourned till 5. When the House is adjourned and reassembles at 5 probably at that time it was interpreted that it is a subsequent sitting. In any event Sir, if the concurrence of the House it can be done and this is not strictly a piece of legislation. The rule is that as far as possible it may be done. We are now sitting and trying to regulate our own procedure, the time, when we shall sit. This is a matter in which even Highness' sanction is not required because it is a matter concerning ourselves.

Mr. President: If the House concurs with the proposal put forward, I suppose there is no objection.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* The purpose of postponing, having the third reading to another sitting, is that some members may once more seriously and cooly consider things. So if it is rushed through, although it is an arrangement between ourselves, I think there may not be sufficient time, for the Hon'ble Member, the mover of the amendment, to reconsider all the aspects of the question. So I suggest that this may be taken up tommorrow and passed.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Finance and Law):* What I submit is this, Sir. The considerations which generally prevail when legislations are being passed in this House do not affect this question because a legislation if it is to be passed and becomes law affects the destinies of several people and that is why first, second and third readings are provided in the matter of legislation ordinarily. But in the case of a Standing Order which only regulates the sittings of this House and the Members of this House and they alone are concerned with that and that is why in the relevant rule words 'as far as' are given. And the precedent which I referred to it may be noted, refers to a question of tenancy which is far more important.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* I don't think that is also unimportant. This is a time when there is food crisis. If people come here and spent a night here that means their rations remained to be black-marketted and we have to spend food for them here. So at a time when we are strongly on rooting out black-market I think, nothing is going to go wrong if this is postponed for 24 hours. So I submit that we may take it up tomorrow.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Mister for Finance and Law):* The sense of the House may be taken.

Mr. President: I said there is no objection if the House concurs to the proposal. But Mr. Iyyu objects to it. I do not find any urgency to over-rule that objection and exercise my discretionary power to grant permission to have this passed this afternoon itself. I suppose we can take it up to-morrow.

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*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble President.

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Mr. M. Bhaskara Menen *(Ernakulam):* There is a preponderance of opinion of the Members Sir.

Mr. President: It is not a question of preponderance of the opinion of the Members.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Finance and Law):* It may be taken up immediately after the Question hour, to-morrow Sir.

Mr. President: Yes. The amendment to the Standing Orders will be taken up immediately after the question time to-morrow.

9-Demands for Supplementary Grants

i. 18-A-2—Constitutional Adviser's Office—Dearness allowance

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warrier *(Prime Minister):* I move for a supplementary grant of Rs. 860 under "18-A-2—Constitutional Adviser's Office—Dearness allowance". The reasons for this motion are given in the note to the Standing Finance Committee. There are: "The term of appointment of the special staff appointed to assist the Constitutional Adviser for examining the old records of the State Central Records was till the end of Dhanu 1123. It was subsequently extended till the end of 1123 and afterwards till the 7th Thulam 1124. An amount of Rs. 860 was required in 1123 on account of Dearness Allowance to the above mentioned staff. There was no savings under any other item under the Budget head concerned". This amount has already been spent and this demand is made only to regularise the expenditure. I request the House may be pleased to grant this demand.

Demand put and carried

ii. P.W.D. Work—Leper Asylum

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Minister for Works and Revenue):* I move for a token demand of Re. 1—under "P.W.D. work—Leper Asylum" by transfer from B. I. 245/23 (4) Constructing kitchen attached to Nurses' Quarters, Ernakulam.

സർ, ഇത് കഴിഞ്ഞ കൊല്ലം അടിയന്തിരമായി ലെപ്പർ അസൈലത്തിൽ ചെയ്യേതീ ത്ത പണികളുടെ ചിലവ് റഗുലറയിസ്സ് ചെയ്യുവാൻ വേണ്ടി മാത്രം കൊണ്ടുവന്നതാണ്. അന്ന് ഇതു കൌൺസിൽ ഇല്ലാതിരുന്നതുകൊണ്ട് കൌൺസിലിന്റെ അനുവാദം കൂടാതെ ചിലവാക്കീട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. ഇപ്പോൾ അസംബ്ലിയുടെ അനുവാദത്തിനു വേണ്ടി കൊണ്ടുവരുന്നതാണ്.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* On a point of information, what for is this one rupee spent.

Mr. K. Ayyappan *(Minister for Works and Revenue):* It is only a token demand.

Demand put and carried

The House rose for lunch at 12-20 p.m. and reassembled at 2-30 p.m. with the Hon'ble President in the Chair

10. Presentation of Budget Estimate for the Year 1124

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. ഗോവിന്ദമേനോൻ

സർ,

ഫ്രഞ്ച് കക്കടകത്തിൽ കൊച്ചിയിലെ അന്നത്തെ ലെജിസ്ലേറ്റീവ് കൌൺസിൽ ഫ്രഞ്ചിനുള്ള ബഡ്ജറ്റ് വാദപ്രതിവാദംചെയ്ത പാസ്സാക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. പതിനാറു മാസങ്ങൾക്കു ശേഷമാണ് ജനപ്രതിനിധികൾ ബഡ്ജറ്റ് നിരൂപണത്തിനു വീണ്ടും ഇപ്പോൾ സമ്മേളിക്കുന്നത്. ഈ പതിനാറു മാസങ്ങൾ ഇന്ത്യാരാജ്യത്തിനെന്നപോലെ കൊച്ചിക്കും സംഭവബഹുലങ്ങളായിരുന്നു. ഫർഴ്സ് ആഗസ്റ്റ് ഫ്രഞ്ചുകാർ ബ്രിട്ടീഷധികാരം ഇന്ത്യയിൽ നിന്നു തിരോധാനം ചെയ്കയും ഇന്ത്യ ഒരു സ്വതന്ത്ര രാജ്യമായിത്തീരുകയും ചെയ്തു. ഈ തിയ്യതി ഇന്ത്യൻ നാട്ടുരാജ്യങ്ങളുടെ ചരിത്രത്തിലും അവിസ്മരണീയമായ ഒന്നുതന്നെയാണ്. ഇന്ത്യൻ സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യത്തിനുവേണ്ടി നാട്ടുരാജ്യങ്ങളിലെ ജനങ്ങളും ബ്രിട്ടീഷിന്ത്യയിലെ ജനങ്ങളെപ്പോലെതന്നെ, അവരോടൊപ്പം, ത്യാഗങ്ങൾ സഹിക്കുകയും, യാതനകൾ അനുഭവിക്കുകയും ചെയ്തവരാകയാൽ ആഗസ്റ്റ് പതിനഞ്ചു നാട്ടുരാജ്യപ്രജകൾക്കും സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യസുദിനം തന്നെയാകുന്നു. മറ്റൊരു വിധത്തിലും ആഗസ്റ്റ് പതിനഞ്ചിനു് ഇന്ത്യൻ നാട്ടുരാജ്യങ്ങളുടെ ചരിത്രത്തിൽ പ്രാധാന്യമുണ്ട്.

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APPENDIX I

Amendment to the Cochin Legislative Council Standing Orders

1. For the word "Council" wherever it occurs the word "Assembly" shall be substituted.

2. For Standing Order 5 (1) the following shall be substituted.

"5. (1) While in session a meeting of the Assembly shall, subject to the direction of the President, ordinarily commence at 4 p.m. and conclude at 9 p.m."

3. In Standing Orders 6, 45 and 46 for the words "the Diwan" wherever they occur, the word "Government" shall be substituted.

4. For Standing Order 11 the following shall be substituted.—

"11. (1) Questions which have not been disallowed shall be entered in the list of questions for the day.

(2) Starred questions entered in the list of questions shall be called, if the time made available for questions permits, in the order in which they stand in the list.

(3) All starred questions which are not reached within the time available and all unstarred questions, with answers thereto, shall be included in the printed proceedings of the Assembly.

11. A. The Secretary shall, together with the provisional list of business under S. O. 3 (2) intimate every member, the days on which each member of Government will give oral answers to interpellations".

5. In Standing Order 57—

(*i*) for the words, brackets and letters "provisos (*b*) and (*c*)" the words, brackets and letter "proviso (*c*)" shall be substituted; and

(*ii*) the words, brackets and letter "together, in the case of action under proviso (*b*) aforesaid, with a copy of the declaration made by the Diwan" shall be deleted.

6. In the Schedule to the Standing Orders in Paragraph 1, for the words "previous to the date of ballot" the words "previous to the date on which the resolutions stand posted in the Agenda" shall be substituted.

7. The amendments numbers 1, 2, 3 and 5, shall come into force at once. The amendments numbers 4 and 6 shall come into force with effect from a date to be specified by the President.

Statement of Objects and Reasons

At present the Legislative Assembly, while in session meets at 11-30 a.m. and breaks up at 5 p.m. with an interval of one hour. This is in accordance with the provision contained in Standing Order 5(1). It is considered that it will be more covenient if the hours of sitting of the Assembly is fixed as from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. with an interval of half an hour. The amendment is intended to give effect to this proposal.

It is also proposed to introduce of the system of starred question from the next meeting of the Assembly onwards. The Legislative Assembly Rules are being amended for this purpose. Certain consequential amendments are necessary in the Standing Orders also.

Paragraph 1 of the Schedule to the Standing Orders requires a member to give notice to the Secretary not less than three clear days previous to the date of ballot if he desires to change the order in which he is to move the resolutions tabled by him. It is proposed to liberalise this provision so that a member need give notice only three days prior to the date on which the resolution stand posted on the Agenda, for changing the order of his resolutions.

Changes that have become necessary consequent on the abolition of the post of the Diwan and the change in designation of the Council as the Assembly are also embodied in the present amendments.

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